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"HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE INTEGRATION PROCESS FOR LOTTERY ~~BETS~~

10   OPERATION~~S~~

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

~~The present Patent Application refers to~~ This is a A Process of Hardware and Software ~~Integration~~

for ~~Operating~~ Lottery ~~Bets~~ to play of all kinds, including Instant Prize (scratch-and-win type),

either ~~by~~ via the Internet or by dedicated equipment(s) in the first case, through the use of

~~Equipments (Hardware) and Computer Programs (Software), acting as~~ an Internet

15   Service Provider, ~~in such a way using~~ the Internet is used in a safe and efficient form, ~~the Internet for the~~

accomplish~~ment of~~ ing bet~~s~~ with the Official Lottery Provider~~,~~ ~~utilizing the~~ Electronic

banking transfer of funds method is used as the ~~as a form~~ of payment. ~~In case of using the~~ When dedicated

equipment is use~~d~~, ~~such equipment is an~~ devices are required, including a user electronic-mechanical one, ~~of the consult~~ terminal

~~type, capable~~ to accomplish lottery bets with ~~direct~~ interaction between the gambler and

20   the machine(s) ~~with connection to~~ The machines are ~~with~~ the Official Lottery Provider, as ~~with~~ well as the banking

net, allowing the immediate payment ~~through cards, what~~ to winners. This brings ~~advantages of~~ the safety, ~~so~~

~~in the operation as in the payment source identification,~~ avoid~~ing~~ places of fraud~~s~~ and prize losses,

and ~~bringing~~ simplicity and comfort to the operation. The use of this process ~~for~~ on the

Internet can be ~~made by~~ accomplished with any computer terminal that is ~~able to be~~ connected to the

25   Internet, through a World Wide Web (WWW) page ~~to be~~ provided by an Internet

Services Provider. This service, which uses and is connected on-line to the banking net,

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facilitate betting transactions without requiring the gambler to leave his house.

This initial centralization allows a virtual expansion of bet-making points and

substantially simplifies the form of payment. This service provides an economy

of time and physical displacement, as well as safety and comfort to the gambler. It also provides freedom

5   to make bets after business hours

and face-to-face contact for payment. The process reduces the possibility of

wagering, enables play for disabled people, and can be translated to many languages. Finally,

the process can facilitate identification of the origin of the operation and of the

10 payment source.

¶ Current and lottery methods are as follows:

1. For Lottery of Numbers games or sports gambling, it is

15 necessary to go to a lottery shop, fill out a bet card, and submit it to an operator. The bet is put into

the system with electronic validation through a card reader, and confirmed by

a printed paper voucher containing the bet information, the date, the number of

the raffle, the amount to pay or other required information. These bet data are

transferred to the Official Lottery Provider, who computes and consolidates them.

20 The amount due is then paid by the gambler in cash, check, or, if the lottery shop

has them, through electronic means such as credit card or banking net. The payment

system is, thus, totally dissociated from the system of bets, not having a link

from the net of the lottery office to the banking net. The most serious

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disadvantage of this current system is that, if the gambler wins ~~the bet prize~~, its

only ~~comprobatory~~ *probative* document is a paper voucher. The prize is ~~then~~ paid to the

bearer of the voucher, ~~what~~ *which* allows the possibility of frauds, ~~the loss of the prize~~

~~when one gets~~ lost the voucher, or ~~the undue~~ *improper* payment to people that didn't make

the winning bet. Other disadvantages are the need to make the bet ~~at the~~ *during* business

hours, *which*

restraining the consumer's ~~freedom of~~ schedule, *and* the inherent cost to the operation

of peripher~~k~~als *for* ~~of~~ two separate nets. *The system is also not convenient* ~~besides the low agility and comfort of the~~

for users.
~~transaction for the user of the systems.~~

10   2. *A* ~~D~~edicated machine, *a* ~~of the type~~ calculator-validator-printer, *on the* installed in the lottery

shops, and linked on-line to the Official Lottery Provider, ~~in that~~ *the* bet card is

handwritten ~~through~~ *on* paper cards, *with the cards* being ~~the bets marked in such cards~~

electronically validated through a card reader, *that returns* ~~with delivery of~~ a printed paper

voucher containing the bet, the date, the number of raffle, the amount to pay and

15   other *required* ~~valid~~ information, ~~and the voucher~~. The data ~~of the bet are~~ *is* then transferred

to the Official Lottery Provider, ~~that~~ *which* computes them and consolidates them. The

winnings are value is then paid to the gambler ~~in money~~ *by cash*, check, or, if the lottery shop have

them, ~~through~~ electronic means *such* as credit card or banking net. The payment system

is, ~~this way,~~ *again* totally dissociated ~~of~~ *from* the bet system, not having a link between the

20   net of the lottery office and the banking net. *The same shortcomings are present in this system as in that discussed above.* ~~The most serious disadvantage of this~~
~~current system is that, if the gambler win the bet prize, its only comprobatory~~

~~document is a paper voucher. The prize is then paid to the bearer of the voucher,~~

~~what allows the possibility of frauds, the loss of the prize when one gets lost the~~

~~voucher, or the undue payment to people that didn't make the winning bet. Other disadvantages are the need to make the bet at the time in wich the shop works, restraining the consumer's freedom of schedule, the inherent cost to the operation of peripherieals of two separate nets, besides the low agility and comfort of the transaction for the user of the systems.~~

3. A dedicated machine, ~~of the type~~ a calculator-monitor-printer, that is installed in places like bars, snack bars and similar stablishments. These machines show, ~~showing~~ through a video monitor, the accomplishment of number bets in recurrent periods of time, like those in the ~~denominated~~ " Pimba " game in Brazil, the machines ~~being~~ are linked on-line with the Official Lottery Provider. This type of machine also has ~~presents~~ the disadvantages of having the payment system totally dissociated from ~~of~~ the bet system, not having a link between the net of the lottery office and the banking net, and ~~besides~~ the need to make the bet at the time in wich the shop B is open ~~works~~, ~~restraining the consumer's freedom of schedule, the inherent cost of the operation of peripherieals of two separate nets, besides the low agility and comfort of the transaction for the user of the systems.~~

4. A dedicated machine of the video-game and/or video-poker type, installed in places ~~like bingos,~~ that play games like the so called "jogo-da-velha" in Brazil. These machines ~~and that~~ are linked on-line with the operator of the lottery office for revenue control. These ~~type of~~ machines are ~~presents~~ subject to the disadvantages described above, ~~of having the payment system totally dissociated of the bet system, not having a link between the net of the lottery office and the banking net, besides the need to make the bet at the time in which the shop works, restraining the consumer's freedom of schedule, the inherent cost~~

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5. Games of the Instant-Prize (scratch-and-win type) lottery, like "raspadinha" in Brazil, are made through the purchase of a paper ticket printed with numbers, letters or figures, such printings being covered by a removable opaque film. This game system is, currently, sought principally by people that frequent very popular and crowded places. Users typically have to wait in lines to acquire the tickets.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE INTEGRATION PROCESS FOR LOTTERY BETS OPERATION of the present invention, was developed to give a new option to the users of lotteries, through the use of the Internet or through dedicated equipment. The system provides an on-line connection to the Lottery Operation Centers and to banking net, and, therefore, providing a virtual expansion of points of placing of bets. The system simplifies the process and guaranteeing the payment to the proper parties.

The service using the Internet provides an economy of time and physical movement, as well as safety and comfort to the gambler. It further provides the gambler freedom to make bets after business hours. The system provides a secure means of payment, eliminates the possibility of

~~interdict~~ bets from **unauthorized** ~~legally non-permitted~~ people, ~~as well as the easiness offered to~~ **and provides access for**

~~those~~ disabled **people.** ~~to move for several reasons, and the diversification of languages~~

~~for bet making.~~ Finally, this process facilitates identification of the origin of the

operation and of the bets payment source, helping in the resolution of possible

problems resulting

5 ~~litigations originating~~ from the loss of ~~the~~ game's voucher.

If Using ~~The~~ dedicated equipment presents **the** advantages of using ~~a consult~~ **dedicated** terminal ~~(kiosk)~~, **In a kiosk setting.**

uses

~~where~~ **+** the ~~own~~ gambler ~~interacts with~~ the terminal through the video monitor

a desired **The bet**

screen, choosing ~~and accomplishing its~~ game ~~that~~ is computed immediately, and **for overall control,**

can be stored and transferred periodically to the Lottery Office ~~for control sake,~~

via **The control transfer can be done**

10 ~~through~~ disk or magnetic tape, or sent electronically on-line ~~in an automatic way~~

automatically or by using

~~through time/quantity mechanism, or even through the intervention of~~ an

When

authorized operator. ~~Soon after,~~ the gambler makes ~~the~~ payment by bank or credit

identification a

cards, using his ~~data~~ ~~and~~ direct link is established with the banking or cards net.

data the

Through this, ~~his~~ bet is dated and identified, with total safety ~~by his card.~~ ~~Soon~~

The gambler then **transactions**

15 ~~after, it~~ receives a printed paper voucher of the ~~operation, containing all the debit~~

In

~~information and a verifying of the accomplished games.~~ By this way, the bet

is linked to the specific gambler, so that even if he loses the bet

~~can~~ ~~ceases to be anonymous, identifying the paying source and being vinculated~~

receipt, payment of a winning play can be made to the proper account.

~~to the bearer of the card, which can follow the result by its voucher, or, if he loses~~

~~it, he can even be communicated by the Lottery Office of his eventual award, by~~

20 ~~letter, electronic mail, phone service or any other media, with total secrecy and~~

~~protection of his identity, as already happens currently with the bank information.~~

~~Other advantages are the total flexibility in attendance time schedules, for the~~

~~terminals can be installed in kiosks with 24 working hours a day, without~~

~~employees' intervention, the reduction of operational costs inherent to the linking of nets in only one terminal, the possibility to inform, by means of "menu" type option the results, warnings and statistics of previous games, the elimination of physical means of payment, the possibility of attendance in several languages, besides the easiness and speed in the making of the bets.~~

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¶ Using the system of típí for

~~The accomplishment of~~ lottery games of the scratch-and-win type ~~by this integration process, presents~~ enlarges the potential market by allowing access through personal computers or at kiosks.
~~the advantage of enlarging this type of game utilization, putting at peoples disposition a new practicality for those that possess the modern resources of~~

10 ~~personal microcomputers and Internet, or have easy access to dedicated game machines (kiosks), aiming to give a new attractiveness to the gambler and fan of lottery games, once it uses Hardware and Software for, in real time, to sell, to~~

Using computers for virtual
~~present and to allow the~~ "scratching" for the display of ~~the~~ game results in the virtual game card containing hidden numbers, letters or illustrations, ~~everything~~

15 ~~in a virtual way,~~ presenting a new ~~easy~~ and comfortable option to these players

The ... of spent standing ... is eliminated.
~~which won't~~ waste time in lines ~~in~~ at the lottery sales points ~~because they can accomplish this game type through the Internet or directly in dedicated game machines (kiosks) located in strategic places, such as shopping centers, peoples transport terminals, leisure areas, etc.,~~ using as form of previous payment, the

20 banking or credit cards. Besides that, there are ~~economic advantages in not being~~ necessary ~~the production, distribution and~~ management of the ~~current game cards elaborated with relatively high cost materials, in addition to being environmentally correct.~~

For better understanding of the present Patent Application the following drawings are enclosed.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGURE 1, that shows the Block Diagram of the Equipments for the Internet using Process. for the system of the present invention.

FIGURE 2, that shows the Block Diagram with the linking of equipments (Hardware) for building of the dedicated bet terminal. linked hardware for dedicated terminals.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The accomplishment of the Process that uses the Internet happens through an association of computers (Hardware) and computer programs (Softwares) whose purposes are specific, that is to say: the search and monitoring of incoming lines of attendance, prioritizing the accesses by arrival order and direction to feeding the services provider attendance to the incoming solicitations by arrival order and conditioning the communication with the applicant with the safety and necessary speed in all the phases of this communication; consultation and electronic transfer of credit values (of the bets) to the banking and/or cards net in a safe and efficient way; trans .emission of records of accomplishment of bets (sales), sending a record it to the applicant and storage the adequate to the emission of reports and to the transferring reports to the Lottery Office; and communication with the Lottery Office for transfer of values (Total accounting of bets/sales) and of reports.

The mechanism of operation of the process using the Internet tpi is based on the principles of consulting will and commercial operation via the Internet. For this are This requires necessary a the Services Provider (SP), the Users (U) and the Internet properly. itself.

The (SP) has a structure based on Computers, and Interfaces Specific

Computer Programs, structured in such a way to enable the reception of Communications

from the users (U). The SP may also be Host of an Internet Home-Page, to be a point of placement for

Provider lottery bets, and to accomplish operations of

5 electronic payments through the banking net, via credit cards. The software of this system is also

able to perform authentication, transfer of the bets, and sending of vouchers and receipts to the

users (U), and to emit internal operational reports and to communicate with the

Lottery Office.

The amount and form of linking of the computers is a function of the structure

10 and attendance philosophy of the SP, that is of the interface with the necessary

communication media to link the SP and the Internet connection point of

the hosts of the pages of the system of bets attendance must also be compatible with the SP,

as must the several servers of the banking or credit cards system. The system also requires a database

with the instruction of information and bets records. Finally, the system requires storage and communication

15 means to sending and modify information with the Lottery Office.

The user (U), that is to say, the gambler, must have a computer terminal with

access to the Internet, and must have access to electronic payment means. The necessary minimum configuration for

Internet operation is defined by the user is specific equipment, compatible with his access

20 provider.

The Software of this system will provide the operation principles, based on Communication with

the Internet, with the following sequence:

A) The users(U) access the net and, when ~~"browsing"~~(navigating) ~~by the same,~~ [with their browser]
access ~~this~~ [a lottery] service page ~~(for example, http://www.lotomidia.com.br)~~, which will
guide him to the main menu.

B) The main menu ~~will~~ informs the ~~attendances~~ [users of the games available and the results of] possible to be rendered, what means, [links to] [previous games.]
~~of the bet types disponible to~~ the user (U), as well as ~~will inform the results of~~
~~previous games assisted by the lottery structure in subject, and finally will~~ gives [The main menu] [users]
the option to continue or to leave. If ~~one~~ [a user] wants to leave ~~it~~, he will return to the
net.

C) To ~~continue~~ [use the system], the user (U) chooses by " clicking " (with the mouse) ~~and then~~ [to either]
accessing the results of previous games or the bet type that ~~it~~ [he] intends to make ~~and~~
[The system ~~will offer him~~ [then displays] the ~~possibilities~~ [plays] together with the pertinent ~~bet~~ prices.

D) If the ~~option is~~ [user has chosen] to see ~~the~~ results, the user (U) receives them [results] and ~~will~~ [again] have the
option to continue or to leave. If ~~One~~ [a user] wants to leave, he ~~will~~ return to the net. If
~~one~~ [he] wants to continue, he will return to the main menu ~~mentioned in B)~~.

E) If the option ~~is~~ [chosen] to bet, the user (U), after the ~~accomplishment~~ [playing] of his games, will
[receive a record]
~~have as result, in case he has not made any mistake, an overview of these games~~
[The record includes]
~~as well as of~~ the value of each ~~operation to be accomplished for~~ [play requiring] payment by the
banking ~~or~~ cards. ~~He will have~~ [The user has] the option of ~~still~~ continue to ~~accomplish~~ [his play] the
game. ~~In case he gives up, he~~ [When stops the user] will have the option to continue or to leave. [inside] If ~~one~~ [he]
wants to leave, he will return to the net. ~~If one~~ [he] wants to continue, he will return to
the main menu ~~mentioned in b)~~. In case ~~any~~ [of a] mistake ~~happens or one want to~~
~~cancel, it will appear~~ [an error message will give] the reason of the mistake and ~~it will be given to~~ the gambler
[will be given] the option of trying again. ~~In positive case it will go back to~~ the screen to do the
[If the gambler chooses to continue, he will return]

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if the gambler chooses not to continue

bet; ~~in negative case;~~ or after three attempts ~~of doing~~ *at placing* the bet, the option will be

given to continue or to leave. If *the user chooses* ~~one want~~ to leave, he ~~will~~ return*s* to the net. *If he chooses*

~~want~~ to continue, he will return to the main menu ~~mentioned in the item B).~~

When a bet is made, payment is

F) ~~In case he doesn't give up, it will be~~ made automatically*,* ~~the payment consult,~~

5 ~~being typed~~ the data for ~~the~~ *a* debit or credit card*s*, *already having been entered.* ~~through electronic change of~~

~~information with the chosen system, and~~ *after* ~~after~~ approved ~~the transaction~~, the *play*

the transaction has been

~~accomplishment of the game~~ will be confirmed and ~~it will happen the recording of~~

A receipt is

~~the accomplished operation,~~ generat*ed* ~~for the user (U),~~ the receipt ~~of the~~ *showing*

financial *transaction* ~~operation~~ and *including* ~~emission of~~ a voucher with the game data in the form

required

10 ~~demanded~~ by the Lottery Provider*.* ~~making them disponible for the user (U) for~~

~~obligatory storage and/or printing close to the user terminal. It is possible to pay~~

Winning bets can be paid with a single

~~M~~ultiple ~~games with the same~~ payment process. *The system can generate any*

~~The process that uses the Internet can, as an alternative,~~ generate ~~a~~ written

that is desired.

communication to the user ~~(U), informing that the same won the bet or even any other~~

15 ~~general information.~~

of tpi   *includes*

¶ The Hardware to accomplish the process ~~that uses the Internet, possesses~~ a computer

a   *work*   *accommodate Internet users, by providing*

arrangement in *a* local net*work* through dedicated ports to ~~the external media, that is to say, for~~

credit

~~the attendance of the Internet users, for~~ connection*s* with the banking and*,* ~~cards~~ nets *and*

also

for connection with the Lottery Office or Official Lottery Provider. The number of access

required is   *number of users.*   *The system requires*

20 ports ~~will be~~ a function of the ~~traffic to be assisted. There will be~~ four microcomputers:

a

a first for communication, ordering and sending of messages (COM), *a* second for general

a   *a*

processing and attendance (PGA), *a* third for attendance to the Internet (ATI), and *a* fourth

for storage (STO). The four microcomputers ~~should~~ have the following minimum

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characteristics: ~~Server and attendants Stations with~~ a Processor with a minimum ~~clock of~~ clock generator speed

200MHz; ~~with~~ cache memory of 256 Kbytes; ~~with~~ main memory of 64 Mbytes

expandable to at least 128 Mbytes; ~~with~~ hard disk of 4 Gbytes, with Fast SCSI-2

interface, with an medium time of access of 15 ms or less and with a minimum disk transfer

5   rate of 4Mbytes/s; ~~with~~ a 3.5 " floppy-disk drive for 1.44Mb of formatted memory; ~~with~~

a CD-ROM unit of 600 Mbytes of formatted memory, SCSI-2 interface, form factor 5.25

inches, a minimum sustained rate of transfer of 330 kbps, medium time of access of 300

ms or less, reading/record by ISO 9660, High-Sierra [caps], CD-ROM Kodak [caps] Photo CD or

similar standard, with minimum eight times the standard speed; I/O unit with a parallel

10   interface Centronics standard, two high-speed serial interfaces EIA RS-232 C/CCITT V

24/V.48 standard and a SCSI-2 Fast/Wide interface; network interface IEEE 802.3

(Ethernet) standard, PCI with an UTP port (100Base-T); a color SVGA 15 " Video

Monitor with a resolution of 1024x768 ~~points~~ and 0.28 mm dot pitch non interlaced;

expansion capability with at least two PCI slots, a PCI/ISA slot and 3 ISA slots; 101 keys keyboard;

15   and a three buttons mouse with a 400 dpi resolution. The microcomputer ~~(STO)~~ ff sto will also

~~be endowed with~~ include an external magnetic tape unity for 4 mm DAT tapes (DAT cartridges),

with a minimum formatted storage capacity of 8 Gbytes (without compression), SCSI-2

interface(standard ANSI X3.131.-1994) and minimum MTBF 70,000 hours; with a color

scanner with capacity for 16.7 million colors, minimum resolution of 1,200 dpi,

20   SCSI/SCSI-2 interface (standard ANSI X3.131-1990/1994), scan area of 8.5x14 inches,

support to PICT, TIFF and EPS (minimum), and drivers that run in another platforms.

A com The microcomputer ~~(COM)~~ will ~~also be endowed with~~ include multiserial communication

interfaces with 12 high-speed ports standard EIA RS-232C/CCITT V.24/V.48 and high-speed interface for connection at 64 Kbps at least.

¶ Referring now to FIGURE 1, the process for use of the Internet occurs in the following sequence: the user (U) will communicate with the Phone Network (PN), which will be

5   connected with the Services Provider (SP) that has 12 external modems (MD) compatible with the first microcomputer (COM) interfaces; the first microcomputer (COM) is connected to the modems (MD) and connection box (HUB), with connection box (HUB) connected to the first microcomputer (COM), the second microcomputer (PGA), the third

10   microcomputer (ATI) and the fourth microcomputer (STO); the second microcomputer (PGA) is connected to the box (HUB) and to the scanner (SCA) and the printer (PRI); the third microcomputer (ATI) is connected to the box (HUB) and the fourth microcomputer (STO) is connected to the box (HUB) and the Tape Unit (TU).

15   ¶ The computer programs (Software) of tpi run in local network 100 baseT. For the preferred embodiments is Windows NT. The programs include at least the following: management of the whole system (a firewall), making specific reports as well as surveillance against intruders,

20   communication among the units of the local network, and communication with the access means as well as with the Internet; storage and database updating in real time; operational safety with cryptography resources; electronic data exchanges directing credit banking/cards transfers; page hosting and maintenance on the Internet. The necessary

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Software for the Server Stations will have as a minimum MS-DOS 6.22 or better, Windows NT, Office Pro, Borland C++ 4.0, Visual Basic 3.0 Pro or better,

SNMP Agent, Lottery Management, Fire Wall, Anti-virus, Electronics Data

Exchanges/Banking/cards transfer Interface, Cryptography, HTML Pages Providing, MS

5   Explorer or Netscape, Communication and database software Sybase or Oracle. The Attendant Stations have the following minimum specifications: MS-DOS 6.22 or superior,

Windows 95/98, Cryptography, HTML Pages Providing, Communication, SNMP Agent

and Access to the database.

According to FIGURE 2, the dedicated equipment for lottery bets comprises a

10   processor (1) for general processing and accesses attendance, with a central processor such as Intel

Pentium PRO or equivalent, with the following minimum requirements: clock of 200

MHz, " cache " memory of 256 Kbytes, main memory of 64 Mbytes expandable to at

least 128 Mbytes and an auxiliary standard keyboard 101 keys, with access to the databases

and the programs by technicians authorized, a hard disk for a database,

15   with a formatted storage capacity of 4 Gbytes or more, with type " Fast SCSI-2

" communication interface ANSI X3.131-1994 standard, with an access time of 15 ms or

less and a minimum transfer rate of 4 Mbytes/s, a " floppy-disk unit with 1.44 Mbytes

formatted capacity, for data storage and transfer, a " DAT " (Digital Audio Tape) tape

unit for storage of data that can be periodically transferred to the lottery net, with

20   minimum storage capacity of 8 Gbytes without data compression, with type " SCSI-2 "

communication interface ANSI X3.131-1994 standard, with minimum time between

failures (MTBF) of at least 70,000 hours, the system further comprises a CD-ROM unit for storage and transfer of

data, with minimum speed 24 times greater than standard " MPC ", minimum formatted

capacity of 600 Mbytes, type " SCSI-2 " communication interface, form factor of 5¼5 inches, sustained transfer rate of 330 kbps or more, medium time of access of 300 ms or less, reading/record by ISO 9660, High-Sierra, CD-ROM X-A, and Kodak Photo CD and

The system includes a and a soundboard unit for sound alarm, a video monitor (2) type touch screen where the

5   gambler will make its choices through a " menu ", and will inform his data bank after

making the bet said monitor with the following minimum requirements: color, 14 " super

VGA standard, with a resolution of 1025x768 points, 0.28 mm " dot pitch ", non

interlaced, touch sensitive, a communication interface set(3) for communication (through

the public phone system) with the banking, credit card, and lottery nets, multiserial with a

10   minimum of 6 ports, EIA RS-232C/CCITT V.24/V.48 standard and 6 modems compatible

with the described interfaces and a speed of 3386 Kbps. The system also includes a magnetic card reader unit (4),

for reading of the gambler's debit or credit card, a speaker (5), for sounding of the screen

touches and user warnings, a printer unit (6) for printing of the bet, vouchers and

payments on the gambler's part, and the electric current source (7).

15   The software that allows the access and operation of the dedicated equipment accomplishes the following sequence of events:

a) The user (U) is introduced to the start screen, with alternating screens so as to

avoid the burning of the video monitor (phosphorus). The user should press a

Start key on the touch sensitive monitor to the touch to access the main menu

20   ;

b) The " main menu " screen offers the following options: to verify the result of

previous games, and to choose the possible game types (type I game, type II

game, type III game, and so on). In case the system stays stable does not change for more than 2

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minutes, without any choice on the part of the user (U), the system returns to the start screen (stage a);

c) When the user (U) has opted for verifying the result of the previous games, he is presented a menu screen with the following options: the date of the desired transaction, the transaction number, or return to the main menu. In case the system does not change for more than 2 minutes, without any choice on the part of the user (U), the system returns to the main menu (stage b);

d) If, in stage b, the user (U) has chosen one of the offered games types, the system requests a confirmation of the desired game. If the chosen option is " do not play game ", the system returns to the " main menu " (stage b). If the option is "play game ", the system advances to stage (e);

e) The game play menu offers the possible options for play, such as dozens, combinations of letters, illustrations, etc., according to the type of game chosen. After confirmation on the user's part, the system checks the validity of the bet, avoiding such mistakes as repetition of numbers, etc. In case mistakes are discovered in the bet, the system indicates them to the user and offers a new option. After a limit of 3 errors, the system returns to the main menu (stage b). When the bet is validated by the system, the system advances to stage (f);

f) The system offers the option " to leave the game ". If the answer is affirmative, the system returns to the start screen (stage a). If the answer is negative, the system advances to the stage (g);

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g) The menu of bank/credit card choice allows the user (U) to indicate ~~its~~ his bank or credit card operator for payment of the bet. ~~After the choice, it goes to the (stage h),~~

h) The user (U) passes his magnetic card ~~in~~ through the card reader and his data are transferred to the banking or ~~cards~~ credit net;

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i) The user (U) types his data ~~and tries~~ to validate the payment ~~by the system current in the banking or cards net, that is,~~ with confirmation and a limit of 3 incorrect attempts. There is a return to the stage (f) ~~after~~ if this limit is exceeded; and

j) The system prints the bet and payment voucher, containing the necessary data for the user (U) to verify the results. The system ~~comes back~~ then returns to the main menu

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(stage b).

¶ The ~~mentioned~~ Software and Hardware ~~to use~~ utilizing the Internet or the dedicated equipment of tpv can also be used for ~~will provide conditions of accomplishment of~~ lottery bets of the "scratch-and-win" type. In this case, the ~~that in addition uses~~ Software ~~that realizes a process that~~ creates two layers: ~~the superior~~ a virtual game card with an outer layer

15 ~~(covering)~~ that can be removed by ~~means of previous conditions that shall be obeyed (and demonstrated as follows)~~ the user, and the ~~inferior~~ inner layer ~~(permanent) superimposed~~ covered by the ~~superior~~ outer layer which ~~will~~ contains information ~~that are~~ is typical for this game type (prizes, information, messages, etc.).

¶ Each virtual game card will be available ~~or liberated~~ only after the payment operation is concluded ~~and it will contain the indication of~~ The card will appear in a prominent region on the screen, so that

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the removal of the covering (erasing) can begin. ~~This region,~~ The gambler ~~should~~ clicks on the card with the mouse ~~(Internet)~~ (in the web based application), his or ~~should~~ touch with finger ~~point~~ (in the application) ~~(kiosk)~~, to begin the removal of ~~this superior~~ the outer layer. This process, once begun, is irreversible. In case an ~~the~~ award is won,

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it will appear on the screen, for posterior printing, A ticket with all the operation information, is printed, from which the player will opt for receiving his prize via electronic bank

operation or via authorized bank. The payment of the prize can be made automatically by

means of deposit in the gambler's bank account (eventually, the same account used

5   previously to pay the virtual "scratch-and-win" game), with a voucher of the values deposited to the in bank account being trans emitted.

The outer layer of the game card will be removed, and it will only be altered once with the "scratching",

by use of the mouse, in the case of a microcomputer linked to the Internet, or by the use

of the finger, in the case of dedicated game machine (kiosks). These layers will be

10   assembled a priori, prior to play, taking into account the information previously established by the

Lottery Office, and by this type of game administrator. The cards are appropriately coded, and they will number

be open by the Software so that it is made a number of virtual game cards is controlled by

the Lottery Office, properly numbered and coded, and whose control will be done by means of

on-line operation, providing that the liberation of the winning virtual game card can be a

15   random, sequential or criteria one. The inferior layer will be fixed and however will be whatever will never have

conditions of being altered. Its information will be valid in any situation and they will be

recognized by any agent authorized by this game provider office. For this, can be printed

in specific format, so much in the dedicated game machines, with common paper and

with a characteristic printing, when the award happens (otherwise the impression won't

20   be liberated), as in microcomputer terminals linked to the Internet or to the consults

terminal, with normal printing paper also with a characteristic printing and in identical

way in the case of award.   Add "not Im" ¶

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An internet based lottery system for various gambling games

~~The present Patent Application refers to a "HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE~~

~~INTEGRATION PROCESS FOR LOTTERY BETS OPERATION",~~ lower case ~~of all kinds,~~

including Instant Prize (scratch-and-win type). The game is played either ~~by~~ on the Internet or by dedicated

equipment. ~~in the first case~~ requires ~~through the use of Equipments (Hardware) and Computer~~ through a PC linked to

~~Programs (Softwares), acting as an Internet Service Provider, in such a way using, in a~~

~~safe and efficient form, the Internet for the accomplishment of bets with the Official~~

Winning plays are paid via ~~Lottery Provider, utilizing~~ the electronic banking transfer of funds ~~method as a form of~~

~~payment. In case of using the dedicated equipment use, such equipment is an electronic-~~

~~mechanical one, of the consult terminal type, capable to accomplish lottery bets with~~

~~direct interaction between the gambler and the machine, with connection so with the~~

~~Official Lottery Provider, as with the banking net, allowing the immediate payment~~

~~through cards, what brings advantages of safety, so in the operation as in the payment~~

~~source identification, avoiding frauds and prize losses, and bringing simplicity and~~

~~comfort to the operation.~~

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